

Message Text

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P 032305Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

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1. WE ARE WORKING ON AMBASSADOR'S CALLS. QUESTION OF ACCOMMODATING MRS. TOON ON SECRETARY'S AIRCRAFT IS STILL UP IN THE AIR BECAUSE SIZE OF SECRETARY'S DELEGATION IS STILL BEING NEGOTIATED. IF SHE HAD ORDERS THIS WOULD HELP, BUT APPARENTLY THIS IS DOABLE ONLY IF THIS IS HOME LEAVE TRAVEL. MAY NOT BE A PROBLEM IN ANY CASE SINCE IF THERE IS ROOM WE CAN PROBABLY SWING IT. NEW QUESTION; WOULD YOU LIKE US TO ARRANGE A PLACE TO STAY?

2. AVIS BOHLEN STOPPED IN TODAY. SHE IS BACK ON A WEEK'S LEAVE FROM THE MBFR DELEGATION. SHE ANNOUNCED THE NEWS THAT SHE PLANS TO GET MARRIED A YEAR FROM THIS JULY AND THAT THE WAY THINGS LOOK NOW THIS WOULD MEAN THAT SHE COULD NOT STAY AT THE EMBASSY BEYOND JULY 1978. SHE TENTATIVELY
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PLANS TO STAY IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE AFTER HER MARRIAGE, BUT EVIDENTLY STAYING ON IN MOSCOW IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. SHE WAS MOST APOLOGETIC ABOUT THE INCONVENIENCE THAT HER PLANS MIGHT CAUSE. WE ADVISED HER NOT TO ANNOUNCE HER PLANS TO PERSONNEL, SINCE THIS WOULD CERTAINLY FORECLOSE THE OPTION OF HER GOING TO MOSCOW FOR ONE YEAR ONLY. WE TOLD HER TO WRITE ABOUT HER PLANS TO BILL BROWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND

THAT IN THE MEANTIME WE WOULD TRY TO GET AN INFORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS. AVIS IS GOOD, AS I AM SURE YOU KNOW. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER HAVING HER FOR A YEAR IS WORTH THE TROUBLE. WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES? THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH FILLING THE POLITICAL/EXTERNAL SLOT WITH SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER SECTION, BUT FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT WE CAN'T SEE ANYONE ON THE HORIZON TO FILL IN BEHIND THIS SUMMER WITH RUSSIAN TRAINING. MIKE JOYCE COULD PROBABLY BE PREVAILED UPON TO COME BACK, BUT ONLY AS CHIEF OF POL/EXT. LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS AND WE WILL EXPLORE THE QUESTION OF ALTERNATIVES FURTHER IF YOU WISH.

3. RE REPLACEMENT DOCTOR, WE TALKED TO SAM WILSON TODAY AND HE CONFIRMED OUR SUSPICION THAT HAVING ONCE SAID THAT WE WANT TO TAKE BACK THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPPLYING A DOCTOR THERE IS LITTLE POSSIBILITY THAT THE MILITARY WILL EVER TAKE IT BACK AGAIN. SINCE SUCH A REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE RIGHT BEFORE YOUR MESSAGE CAME, WE ARE BOXED IN.

VANCE

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